

Summary of Funding Models for Watershed Organizations

The Institute for Watershed Sciences



Mono Lake



Non-profit Models

- **Mono Lake Committee**
 - citizens' group who are influential in water policies toward the protection and restoration of the Mono Basin ecosystem
 - 1.6 million operating budget from various sources of public support (2006)



San Francisco Estuary



Non-profit Models

- **San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI)**
 - founded in 1986 to foster the development of the scientific understanding needed to protect and enhance the San Francisco Estuary
 - conduct science studies, synthesize data and information, and collaborate with other scientists to provide a holistic integration of information that supports management activities or demonstrates the potential implications of different management scenarios to environmental management agencies and other stakeholders



Non-profit Models

- SFEI cont'd
 - key sources of funding through their Regional Monitoring Program for Water Quality (RMP)
 - The RMP is an innovative collaborative effort between SFEI, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the regulated discharger community
 - \$3 million per year from the discharger community are pooled and applied in a strategic, comprehensive manner toward understanding contaminant levels and impacts on beneficial uses of the Bay
 - Other SFEI programs are funded by federal and state grants and funds



Joint Powers Agency/Authority Models

A joint powers agency is one that is formed when several government agencies have a common mission that can be better addressed by pooling resources and knowledge



So. Calif. Coastal Water Project



Joint Powers Agency/Authority Models

- **Southern California Coastal Water Research Project Authority (SCCWRP)**
 - was formed in 1969 to address a limited knowledge of the effects of wastewater and other discharges to the Southern California coastal marine environment
 - governed by a twelve member commission that includes representatives of city, county, state, and federal government agencies responsible for monitoring and protecting the marine environment
 - Original basis for funding was a self-imposed tithe per 1 million gallons per day of wastewater discharged by each of the five initial JPA sponsors
 - In recent years, the JPA prescribed an incremental decrease in the tithe, while depending more on supplemental grants and contracts with State and Federal agencies, municipalities and other public utility agencies



Salton Sea



Joint Powers Agency/Authority Models

- **Salton Sea Authority**
 - Joint Powers Authority (JPA) whose goal is the revitalization of the Salton Sea
 - The Authority Plan includes a local funding component that includes:
 - the formation of tax-increment financing and benefit assessment districts;
 - public land acquisitions, transfers, and sales;
 - developer payments and impact fees; and
 - use of public-private partnerships for the construction and operation of the treatment plants



Joint Powers Agency/Authority Models

- **CALFED Bay-Delta Program**
 - unique collaboration among 25 state and federal agencies that came together with a mission to develop a long-term comprehensive plan that will restore ecological health and improve water management for beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta system (San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta)



Joint Powers Agency/Authority Models

- **CALFED Bay-Delta Program cont'd**
 - Plan proposes investing \$300 million in this watershed program in Stage 1
 - CALFED Agencies also propose investing approximately \$950 million during Stage 1 in water quality programs
 - Of this investment, more than \$500 million would come from State and Federal sources and the remainder from local sources



Everglades



Partnership Models

- **The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP)**
 - In 2000, Congress authorized the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), the largest environmental restoration effort in history
 - The estimated cost of the plan, to be shared equally (50/50) by the federal government and the state of Florida, is \$10.5 billion



Partnership Models

- CERP cont'd
 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is the lead federal agency and the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is the lead state agency for the effort
 - The District's annual budget is funded by a combination of property taxes and other sources such as federal, state and local revenue, licenses, permit fees, grants, agricultural taxes and investment income



Chesapeake Bay



Partnership Models

- **Chesapeake Bay Program**
 - regional partnership that directs and conducts the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay
 - The Bay Program formed after the governors of Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania; the mayor of the District of Columbia; and the administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency signed *The Chesapeake Bay Agreement of 1983*



Partnership Models

- The Bay Program cont'd
 - **Executive Council:** designed to establish the policy direction
 - **Chesapeake Bay Commission:** a tri-state legislative commission which advises the General Assemblies of Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania in cooperatively managing the Chesapeake Bay
 - **Regional Finance Authority:** charged with prioritizing and distributing restoration funds throughout the Bay's 64,000-square-mile watershed (16 Billion) funded through an 80/20 ratio of federal and state funds



Great Lakes



Partnership Models

- **Great Lakes Commission**
 - established by joint legislative action of the Great Lakes states in 1955 (the [Great Lakes Basin Compact](#)) and granted congressional consent in 1968
 - A [Declaration of Partnership](#) (PDF) established associate membership for the provinces in 1999
 - The Commission is a binational public agency dedicated to the use, management and protection of the water, land and other natural resources of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence system



Partnership Models

- GLC cont'd
 - GLC has convened the **Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands Consortium** to expand the monitoring and reporting capabilities of the U.S. and Canada under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement
 - The consortium is funded by the U.S. EPA Great Lakes National Program Office (GLNPO) and whose principal goals are towards the restoration and maintenance of the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Great Lakes basin



Puget Sound



Partnership Models

- **Puget Sound Partnership**
 - defines, coordinates and implements Washington state's environmental agenda for Puget Sound
 - recently created through Washington state legislature, who identified its mission, organizational structure and funding mechanisms



Partnership Models

- **Puget Sound Partnership cont'd**
 - Design an action agenda to be based on science and include clear, measurable goals for the recovery of Puget Sound by 2020
 - The agency shall consist of a leadership council, an executive director, an ecosystem coordination board, and a Puget Sound science panel
 - Upon approval of the council, the executive director may take action to create a private nonprofit entity



Partnership Models

- **Puget Sound Partnership cont'd**
 - State agencies responsible for implementing elements of the action agenda work with the partnership in the development of biennial budget requests to achieve consistency with the action agenda to be submitted to the governor
 - legislature created new state treasury accounts (state and local toxics control, aquatic lands enhancement, habitat conservation, salmon recovery, and oyster reserve land) to make funds available for goals specifically identified in the action agenda



Columbia River Estuary



Partnership Models

- **Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership**
 - mission is to preserve and enhance the water quality of the estuary to support its biological and human communities
 - one of 28 programs U.S. EPA's National Estuary Program, is a two-state, public-private initiative
 - is a 501(C)(3) non-profit corporation
 - partnership's responsibility is to implement the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan for the Lower Columbia River



Partnership Models

- **Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership**
 - The Estuary Partnership provides a regional framework to support and enhance local efforts
 - That support includes providing funds to local entities
 - Funding from the states of Oregon and Washington and Congress – through the National Estuary Program – supports base operations and help secure matching public and private dollars
 - Every dollar invested in the Estuary Partnership currently leverages eight additional dollars

